

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A disc reproducing apparatus having a screen display control unit controlling display of a prepared screen, said screen display control unit comprising including:
mode setting means for setting, in accordance with externally provided instruction information, one of a screen display mode and a screen ~~erasure~~ blanking mode; and
control means for permitting output of a display signal to said prepared screen when said screen display mode is set by said mode setting means and inhibiting output of the display signal to said screen when said screen ~~erasure~~ blanking mode is set by said mode setting means, wherein said permitting and said inhibiting are in a case where audio information is reproduced from a disc.
2. (Currently Amended) The disc reproducing apparatus ~~having the screen display control unit~~ according to claim 1, further ~~comprising having~~ a key input unit ~~configured to be that is~~ externally operated;[,]
wherein said screen display control unit further comprises includes:
key determination means for determining, when said screen ~~erasure~~ blanking mode is set and said key input unit is externally operated,
a type of an operated key of said key input unit; and
key information display means for displaying on said screen information according to the type of the key determined by said key determination means.
3. (Currently Amended) The disc reproducing apparatus ~~having the screen display control unit~~ according to claim 2, wherein reproduction of said audio information is discontinued according to the type of the key determined by said key determination means.
4. (Currently Amended) The disc reproducing apparatus ~~having the screen display control unit~~ according to claim 3, wherein the discontinued reproduction of said audio information is resumed.

5. (Currently Amended) The disc reproducing apparatus ~~having the screen display control unit~~ according to claim 4, wherein said instruction information is output in response to operation of a predetermined key of said key input unit.
6. (Currently Amended) The disc reproducing apparatus ~~having the screen display control unit~~ according to claim 5, wherein said disc is a disc having only said audio information to be reproduced or a disc having said audio information and image information to be reproduced.
7. (Currently Amended) The disc reproducing apparatus ~~having the screen display control unit~~ according to claim 4, further ~~comprising having~~ means for displaying a data item operated for indicating designating one of said screen display mode and said screen ~~erasure~~ blanking mode.
8. (Currently Amended) The disc reproducing apparatus ~~having the screen display control unit~~ according to claim 7, wherein said disc is a disc having only said audio information to be reproduced or a disc having said audio information and image information to be reproduced.
9. (Currently Amended) The disc reproducing apparatus ~~having the screen display control unit~~ according to claim 1, further having a key input unit that is externally operated, wherein said instruction information is output in response to operation of a predetermined key of said key input unit.
10. (Currently Amended) The disc reproducing apparatus ~~having the screen display control unit~~ according to claim 1, further ~~comprising having~~ means for displaying a data item operated for indicating designating one of said screen display mode and said screen ~~erasure~~ blanking mode.
11. (Currently Amended) The disc reproducing apparatus ~~having the screen display control unit~~ according to claim 1, wherein said disc is a disc having only said audio information to be reproduced or a disc having said audio information and image information to be reproduced.
12. (Currently Amended) A method of controlling display of a prepared screen while reproduction of a disc is done, the method comprising the steps of:

~~mode-setting~~ for setting one of a screen display mode and a screen ~~erasure~~ blanking mode in accordance with externally provided instruction information;
~~and control step~~ for permitting output of a display signal to said prepared screen when said screen display mode is set in said mode-setting step; and
inhibiting output of the display signal to said screen when said screen ~~erasure~~ blanking mode is set in said mode-setting step,
wherein said permitting and said inhibiting are in a case where audio information is reproduced from said disc.